

**REGULAR MEETING OF
BELMONT REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY
Tuesday, April 12, 2005**

CALL TO ORDER 8:15 P.M.

ROLL CALL

Directors Present: Mathewson, Feierbach, Metropulos, Bauer, Warden

Directors Absent: None

Staff Present: Interim Executive Director Rich, Interim City Attorney Zafferano, Community Development Director Ewing, Public Works Director Davis, Agency Secretary Cook.

AGENDA AMENDMENTS

Chair Warden stated that notices were mailed regarding a potential agenda item dealing with Low-to-Moderate Income Housing, but that this item was not on the final agenda, but would be rescheduled at a future date.

ITEM APPROVED ON CONSENT CALENDAR

Approval of Minutes of Regular Meeting of March 8, 2005.

ACTION: On a motion by Director Mathewson, seconded by Director Bauer, the Consent Agenda was unanimously approved by a show of hands.

ADDITIONAL BUSINESS

Discussion and Direction on Planning Program for Grand Boulevard/MTC-SamTrans Grant

Community Development Director Ewing stated that multi-jurisdictional discussions have been ongoing to develop a regional approach to improving El Camino Real, which includes improved accessibility for pedestrians, bicyclists, and bus riders. He noted that Sam Trans has identified a consultant and has outlined a project description and schedule. He clarified that Sam Trans would provide funding. He reviewed options on how to facilitate community input, which include using the Planning Commission as the lead agency, the appointment of a special committee, or holding open meetings.

In response to questions from Chair Warden, Community Development Director Ewing clarified that the proposed consultant is aware of the need for this project to qualify for grant funding, and has experience with multi-jurisdictional projects. He also responded that the existing plans for the Belmont Cal Train Station became a visual for the Grand Boulevard discussions, but that the focus should be on aesthetics, and parking on El Camino Real.

Chair Warden stated that the plaza design should be re-evaluated, since the current plan may not be its highest and best use, other than the historic preservation component. He noted that a fresh look might provide new ideas. He recommended using the Planning Commission as the lead agency, as it could be a logistical burden to seek another task force.

Director Feierbach stated the current plaza plan is expensive, and supported re-evaluating it. She also supports having the Planning Commission act as the lead, and recommended inviting surrounding business owners and other interested parties to participate and provide input. In response to her question regarding ownership of the property, staff clarified that the property was owned by the City of Belmont, and that Cal Trans possesses an easement.

Director Metropulos expressed support for a re-evaluation of the plaza plans.

Director Bauer recommended appointing a citizen's committee comprised of other commission candidates, since they could add value. He also supports re-evaluating the plaza plans.

Director Mathewson stated that he spoke with three Planning Commissioners who expressed enthusiasm for being the lead agency. He supported inviting the Urban Design members of the Visioning Team to participate as well.

ACTION: Director Feierbach made a motion, seconded by Director Mathewson, to have the Planning Commission act as lead agency for the Grand Boulevard community input, to invite surrounding businesses and other interested parties, including the Urban Design Team, to use the consultant as recommended by Sam Trans (Bottomley Planning and Design), and to approve the project scope as presented. Chair Warden offered a friendly amendment, accepted by Director Feierbach, to include re-evaluating the Cal Train Plaza. Motion passed by a show of hands (4-1, Bauer no).

Consideration of Resolution Amending the Bylaws to reflect a change in Time and Place of the Regular Meeting of the Belmont Redevelopment Agency.

Agency Secretary Cook outlined the proposed minor amendments to the Bylaws of the Redevelopment Agency, including revising the time and place for meetings to reflect the address of the new City Hall. She clarified that the address reflected the new Council Chambers, not the new address for the Senior and Community Center.

ACTION: On a motion by Director Mathewson, seconded by Director Metropulos, Resolution 423 Amending the Bylaws to reflect a change in Time and Place of the Regular Meeting of the Belmont Redevelopment Agency was unanimously approved by a show of hands.

ADJOURNMENT at this time, being 8:12 P.M.

Meeting tape-recorded and videotaped
Tape No. 607

Terri Cook
Agency Secretary

Minutes approved 5/10/2005